

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A parallel optical interconnect for use in a fiber optic

2 system, comprising:

3 a plurality of first segments of optical fibers extending in a side-by-side arrangement;

4 a first holder in the form of ~~ribbonizing web material~~ a first discrete body member that
5 maintains a plurality of first terminal portions of the first segments in a first predetermined pitch;

6 a fiber-fan-out including a plurality of second segments of the optical fibers extending
7 in a diverging arrangement from the plurality of first segments; and

8 a second holder in the form of a second discrete body member that maintains a plurality
9 of second terminal portions of the second segments in a second predetermined pitch that is
10 greater than the first predetermined pitch.

2 - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A fiber optic system, comprising:

2 a plurality of first segments of optical fibers extending in a side-by-side arrangement;

3 a first holder that maintains a plurality of first terminal portions of the first segments in
4 a first predetermined pitch so that the first terminal portions can each be optically coupled to a
5 corresponding routed optical fiber via a parallel optical connector having the first predetermined
6 pitch;

7 a fiber-fan-out including a plurality of second segments of the optical fibers extending
8 in a diverging arrangement from the plurality of first segments;

9 a second holder that maintains a plurality of second terminal portions of the second segments in
10 a second predetermined pitch that is greater than the first predetermined pitch; and

11 a plurality of optical subassemblies (OSAs) arranged in an array, each OSA being
12 optically coupled to a corresponding one of the second terminal portions of the second segments
13 : and

14 the first and second holders being provided by a common housing assembly surrounding
15 the first and second segments of the optical fibers except for the first and second terminal
16 portions.

12 - 20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A fiber optic system, comprising:

2 a plurality of first segments of optical fibers extending in a side-by-side arrangement;

4 a first holder that maintains a plurality of first terminal portions of the first segments in

6 a first predetermined pitch so that the first terminal portions can each be optically coupled to a

8 corresponding routed optical fiber via a parallel optical connector having the first predetermined

10 pitch;

12 a fiber-fan-out including a plurality of second segments of the optical fibers extending

14 in a diverging arrangement from the plurality of first segments;

16 a second holder that maintains a plurality of second terminal portions of the second

18 segments in a second predetermined pitch that is greater than the first predetermined pitch;

20 the first and second holders being provided by a common housing assembly surrounding

22 the first and second segments of the optical fibers except for the first and second terminal

24 portions;

26 a plurality of alignment pins that extend from at least one end of the housing assembly;

28 and

30 a plurality of optical subassemblies (OSAs) arranged in an array, each OSA being
32 optically coupled to a corresponding one of the second terminal portions of the second segments.

22. (Previously Presented) A fiber optic system, comprising:

2 a plurality of first segments of optical fibers extending in a side-by-side arrangement;

4 a first holder that maintains a plurality of first terminal portions of the first segments in

6 a first predetermined pitch so that the first terminal portions can each be optically coupled to a

8 corresponding routed optical fiber via a parallel optical connector having the first predetermined

10 pitch;

12 a fiber-fan-out including a plurality of second segments of the optical fibers extending

14 in a diverging arrangement from the plurality of first segments;

16 a second holder that maintains a plurality of second terminal portions of the second

18 segments in a second predetermined pitch that is greater than the first predetermined pitch;

- the first and second holders being provided by a common housing assembly surrounding
- 12 the first and second segments of the optical fibers except for the first and second terminal portions;
- 14 a plurality of alignment pins that extend from at least one end of the housing assembly; and
- 16 a plurality of ferrules, each secured around a corresponding one of the second terminal portions of the second segments.